REMARKS

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2 and 13 without prejudice and amended claim 3 to be in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

The Examiner has objected to claim 3-6 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 3 to be independent and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In addition, claims 4-6 depend on directly or indirectly on claim 3. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-6 are now all allowable and Applicant accepts these allowed claims.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703)

872-9306 on February 4, 2004.

William L. Androlia

2/4/2004 Signature Date